

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the multi-storey buildings all over the country do not conform to the anti-tremor standard;
- (b) if so, whether Government are going to take any effective and concrete steps keeping in mind the safety of lives of lakhs of people;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefore?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA):** (a) Since no survey has been made to assess whether the buildings have been constructed as per Bureau of Indian Standards norms in regard to earthquake resistant technologies, it is difficult to give an answer either in negative or positive.

(b) to (d) Government has already brought the recommendations of the Expert Group on Disaster Mitigation to the notice of all the State Governments for formation of action plans. The Group had recommended modification in building bye-laws and land use zoning of various States to incorporate earthquake resistant technologies in construction. This matter was also discussed in the Housing Ministers' Conference 1998 and publicity had been given to the aspect of safer construction of buildings. The State Chief Ministers have since been remained to take urgent action and report the same to this Ministry.

#### **Steps to Protect the Multi-Storyed Buildings from Earthquake**

**500. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:**

**SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:**

**SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:**

**Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that Delhi is placed in the high risk Zone IV of the seismic zoning map issued by the Indian Meteorological Department;
- (b) if so, the action being proposed to be taken to protect the multi-storyed buildings including Five Star Hotels; and
- (c) the details of the steps to be taken for future construction of Multi-storyed buildings to make them strong enough to withstand natural calamities?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA):** (a) Delhi is placed in Zone-IV of the Seismic Zoning Map.

(b) Presently construction of Buildings in Delhi is governed by the Building Bye-laws which take care of the structural safety of the Buildings constructed/proposed to be constructed. These Buildings Bye-Laws are regulated and implemented through various agencies like the Delhi Development Authority, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Council. The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation has also been emphasizing the need for strictly curbing any violation of the Building Bye-laws by any person or persons and has been stressing upon the local bodies/authorities to take action as per Rules and Acts against unauthorised constructions.

(c) To give a greater thrust for making buildings quake resistant and structurally more sound prospectively, the Ministry has issued a Public Notice on February 01, 2001 purporting to amend certain provisions of the Building Bye-laws which would enable greater structural safety of the Buildings. A copy of the Public Notice is at Annexure [See Appendix 192, Annexure No. 3]. This modification, as evident, makes it mandatory that the structural design of foundation, masonry, timber, plain concrete, reinforced concrete pre-stressed concrete and structural steel would be carried out taking into consideration the Indian Standards for earthquake protection of Building and that the certificate of doing so would be signed by the owner and the architect.

**Rehabilitation of jobless workers of closed industrial units of Delhi**

**501. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:**

**SHRI SURESH KALMADI:**

**Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that lakhs of workers have been laid off due to the closure of more than 18000 polluting industrial units in Delhi, recently;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals under consideration for rehabilitation of the jobless workers; and